Redmond Parks and Recreation Department

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  A "safe place" for teens!
- **Farrel-McWhirter Park**
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  Picnics, farm and nature fun!
- **Redmond Senior Center**
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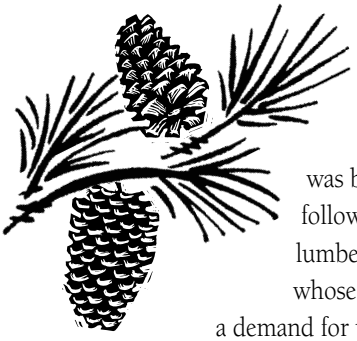
  7031 148th Ave NE
  Group picnics and sports!

HISTORIC REDMOND

The City of Redmond sits in a fertile basin created by ancient glaciers that once covered much of King County. Thousands of years before the first fur trappers entered the area's dense forests, the Sammamish Valley's rich bottomland provided shelter and food for Native Americans who welcomed the newcomers of largely European descent. The abundant salmon in the Squak Slough, or Sammamish River, was so great that men were said to rake the fish from the water, and thus, the frontier settlement that eventually came to be called Redmond was first known as Salmonberg.

Warren Wentworth Perrigo and the town's namesake, Captain Luke McRedmond, were the first pioneers to stake land claims on the north end of Lake Sammamish. The early homesteaders' greatest challenge was clearing the towering trees, which were of such enormous girth that available equipment was inadequate. While the immediate solution was a method of felling the giants by burning their trunks above the roots, the challenge itself soon led to Redmond's first economic boom. Loggers poured into the valley in the 1880s, and in



1890 near Issaquah, John Peterson built the first sawmill east of Lake Sammamish. Campbell Mill was built in 1905 at Campton, followed by other prosperous lumber and shingle operations whose substantial payrolls created a demand for products and services.

Steamboats were the only practical transportation during Redmond's early years of few roads and thick forests. Chugging up and down the Sammamish River and crisscrossing the lake that feeds it, the flat-bottomed boats carried goods and passengers until 1916 when the Chittenden Locks opened, lowering local lakes and waterways by nine feet. In 1888, the year before Washington became a state, the Seattle Lake Shore & Eastern Railway came to this wilderness community, and with its arrival, the marketability of Redmond's timber was ensured.

During its logging heydays, this was a rollicking town of saloons, hotels, dance halls, movie theaters and eateries. The Redmond Trading Company was the community's first brick building in 1908, and soon other brick structures were erected, notably: Bill Brown's Garage, the Old Redmond Schoolhouse, the Brown Building, and the Redmond State Bank, whose largest depositors when it opened in 1911 were lumber mills. But as in other Western towns of the era, most buildings were wooden, and when ablaze, were especially vulnerable to complete devastation for lack of a public water system. Indeed, repeated and disastrous fires were the primary impetus for the stable community of 300 residents to become a fourth-class town in 1912. Incorporation allowed Redmond to tax its thriving saloons and finance a modern waterworks.

Frederick A. Reil was the town's first mayor, and during his term, Redmond bloomed. Many new buildings rose downtown and automobiles became a frequent sight on Main Street (Leary Way). Four years ahead of the nation, Washington state in 1916 adopted Prohibition, which created

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

38 Mayor Brown's House

William "Bill" Brown was three years old when he arrived in Redmond with his German immigrant family in 1887. In his lifetime, he had arguably more influence upon the town than any other individual before or since. He was Mayor of Redmond for 30 years, from 1919 until 1948, when the Mayor and Town Council were paid $2 per month. From 1924 to 1932, he served as a King County Commissioner. He was a man of action and a successful businessman, a planner and a builder. Two of his buildings were recognized by the Redmond City Council in 2000 as historically significant landmarks: Bill Brown's Garage (1920) and the Bill Brown Building (1910). He envisioned building and paving a road around the west side of Lake Sammamish from Redmond to Issaquah, and then he worked to make it happen. He was a good-humored man and a popular mayor who will always be remembered for his tremendous civic pride. He built this craftsman-style house in 1916, the same year he married Laura Duffy. Today, Bill Brown's home is a popular restaurant, the Brown Bag Café. The name similarity is happenstance.

William Brown

Courtesy of EHC –Marymoor Museum

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

37 Woodside House ⚙

Veterinarian Dr. James H. Woodside ran for a seat on the first Town Council in 1913, and although he became the first candidate to lose an election in Redmond, he and his wife remained active in civic affairs. The doctor's practice generally took him into the countryside to treat farm animals, and in the days before he had a telephone, he advertised that in case of emergencies, he could be reached at the Hotel Redmond on Leary Way. Upon the doctor's death, another veterinarian bought the house, and then the Roy and Alice Swenson family made it their home in 1940. Being avid gardeners, the Swensons created a park-like setting of fruit trees and berry bushes, flowers and blooming vines around their corner house. In this pleasant setting, Roy Swenson frequently entertained the staff of Redmond Elementary School where he was the principal. For 75 years, the house the Woodsides built in 1925 stood on the corner of NE 83rd Street and 164th Avenue NE. Then in 2000, the house was threatened with destruction. Local residents and business owners John and Carolyn Miglino saved the building by purchasing it, and moving it a half-block away, across 164th Avenue. Today, it is Carolyn Miglino's boutique, the Rosetree Cottage.

bootlegging operations within the town and many liquor stills in the woods surrounding it.

As aggressive logging destroyed virgin forests, the local timber industry quickly faded in the 1920s, and agriculture became the mainstay of Redmond's economy. On the hills and in the valleys once home to deer, bear and bobcats, farmers struggled to remove massive stumps. They fenced their land for dairy cattle, built structures for chickens and mink, staked acres of berries, and planted profitable farms. The population grew little during this period, with many young adults seeking jobs elsewhere during the Depression.

From the early days of steamboats and horse-drawn stages, the natural progression of better roads and dependable transportation has facilitated Redmond's growth. The town's population was 503 in 1940 when the first Lake Washington floating bridge opened, commencing a slow, steady increase of residents. The completion of the Evergreen Point floating bridge in 1963 initiated vigorous residential growth, which like the logging boom of the 1880s, created a demand for local goods and services. Redmond's high-tech industrial growth began slowly in the 1970s, but by century's end, the population had exploded to 43,610.

With an independent economic and cultural heritage of logging and agriculture, Redmond continues to grow and evolve as a dynamic city. Today, its residents embrace the future with their long tradition of community pride, participation, and pioneer resourcefulness.

SITE KEY:

- ⚙ **Designated for Historic Preservation**
- ⚙ **Visitors Welcome**
- ● **Historic structure exists**
- ○ **Historic structure gone**
- 🚻 **Restroom**

See map on pages 22–23

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

1 Nokomis Clubhouse ❁

In 1909, seven Redmond women met to form a book discussion group, and chose the name Nokomis Club for their literary circle. By 1927 the Club had created Redmond's first public library in a small building on Leary Way. Outgrowing its space only two years later, the Redmond Public Library moved across the street to the banquet room of the Grand Central Hotel. Outlying rural residents appreciated having this cultural resource as much as town dwellers did, and soon even more room was needed for the growing book collection. Membership in the Nokomis Club swelled as the group became a very active part of the community, engaging in charitable and civic works. There was even a Junior Nokomis Club. In 1933, Fred Brown and his wife Irene, a long-time Club member, donated land for a new library building that could also serve as a clubhouse. A local carpenter, who was out of work in that lean Depression year, built the building for just $50. By 1938 the library was again cramped for space. The Nokomis mortgaged its building for $1200 to buy materials for a separate library building, which the Works Progress Administration constructed in back of the clubhouse. Since 1947, when the Redmond library became affiliated with the King County Library System, it has moved to larger quarters three more times: in 1964, 1975 and 1999. Today's library is at 15990 NE 85th Street. The Redmond Chamber of Commerce has occupied the former Nokomis Clubhouse since 1972.

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

36 Mayor Shelton's House

H.E. "Andy" Shelton was a local electrician who was serving his fifth year on the Redmond Town Council when he was appointed mayor in 1952 to replace Lewis Green, who resigned from the office. Shelton built his craftsman style home in 1936, and its exterior remains much as it was in that decade. The Shelton home is located in Perrigo's Plat of Redmond, which was planned as the town's first entirely residential neighborhood. It was platted by William P. Perrigo within his homestead, which originally encompassed all of Education Hill. In 1877, William and his family emigrated from New Brunswick, Canada, to join his older brother Warren Wentworth Perrigo. Six years earlier, Warren had settled in Salmonberg, as Redmond was then known, and built the area's first inn, Melrose House, but when his wife Laura died, the older brother moved away. The William Perrigos remained, befriending local Indians, and donating land for the small settlement's water supply and first church. The pioneering Perrigos opened the first trading post. They farmed and logged and mined. In 1922 William donated a portion of his land for the two-story schoolhouse, which still stands today near the southeast border of Perrigo's Plat. After 125 years, the William Perrigos are still a vital family presence in our community. Walking the streets in this area of the city, one can still sense the neighborhood pride, tranquility and friendliness that characterized these early residential blocks of tidy yards, shade trees, and well-kept homes.

From the Perrigo Family Collection

William Perrigo

Private residence, please be courteous.

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

35 Redmond United Methodist Church

In the decades following the first pioneers' arrival, religious services were held in homes with the occasional visiting pastor in attendance. About 1888 William Perrigo donated land on this site for a Congregational Church where services were conducted for a few years before the building was dismantled. In 1908, after 8 years labor, another church was erected one block to the southwest, the Methodist Episcopal Church. Parishioners came from miles around to what was commonly called "the community church," the Tosh and Cotterill families even rowing down the Sammamish River from their homesteads to reach the little church with the sweet peeling bell. Located where the state highway from Woodinville met Redmond Way, by 1926, downtown traffic noise spurred parishioners to move the building by truck to its current location where the Congregational Church once stood. This time, the same land was donated by another Perrigo, Marvin. The wood-frame building was remodeled with brick, dedicated, and stood ready to hold its first wedding in 1928 when Mildred King of Redmond married Verne Pickering of Duvall. Over the years, the church has undergone numerous alterations and enlargements. When Youngerman's General Store on Leary Way closed and was demolished, much of its lumber was used to build a parsonage. This Methodist Church's official name has also been changed at least three times during the last century, but this beautiful landmark building is still remembered by many local old-timers as the Redmond Community Church.

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

2 Odd Fellows Hall/ First Community Center

Built as a community gathering hall in 1903 by Herman S. Reed, this two-story building was made of lumber hand-selected for perfection at John Peterson's sawmill at Avondale, and hauled into town by Gottfried Everson, who was well-known as an honest horse trader. This steep-roofed landmark became Redmond's first movie house, with the front gabled dormer over the door housing the projectionist. Before electricity came to Redmond, a generator was set up on the sidewalk and when it failed, patrons were entertained by the improvising of pianist Daphne Rosford Foss, who drew patrons from Seattle just to hear her accompany the silent movies. Before 1914, the Eagles Lodge held meetings here, and in 1926 the Independent Order of Odd Fellows purchased the building for Lodge No. 325, which George B. Martin had instituted 3 years earlier. The Odd Fellows occupied this building until 1973, and the IOOF's original 3-links symbol still hangs on the building's façade. When Prohibition closed Bill Brown's saloon, the town's regular Saturday night dances moved north on Leary to this hall where Les LaBrie's orchestra played big band sounds on a raised stage, couples polkaed, waltzed, and did the schottische. During intermissions, many an otherwise law-abiding individual discretely imbibed in the darkened parking lot. While the building's face has been remodeled, it still retains many original details and all its charm of a hundred years ago.

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

③ W.D. Donnelly General Merchandise

The home William and Emma Donnelly built in 1900 was on this NW corner of Leary and Jackson Streets. Three years later, Donnelly rented a new building across the street where O'Leary Park is today, and there he opened his first general merchandise store. Considered the best commercial corner in town, business was so good that in 1918 he either demolished his house on this corner or incorporated it into a commercial building, moving his business here from across the street. As in his previous location, the new store continued to be a hub for the community, although competition was stiff with three other dry goods mercantiles, all on Leary Way: the Redmond Trading Company, Westby's General Store, and Youngerman's General Store. When this photo was taken in 1939, a large block-lettered sign hung on the building's southern side: "Donnelly Gro Store." Remodeled many times, over the years the building has been occupied by an eclectic variety of businesses. In 1946 when he was discharged from military service and newly arrived in Redmond, Selwyn "Bud" Young and Kenny Kendrick bought the Central Electric Store on this corner. An electrician by trade, Bud Young became Redmond's sixth mayor in 1968.

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

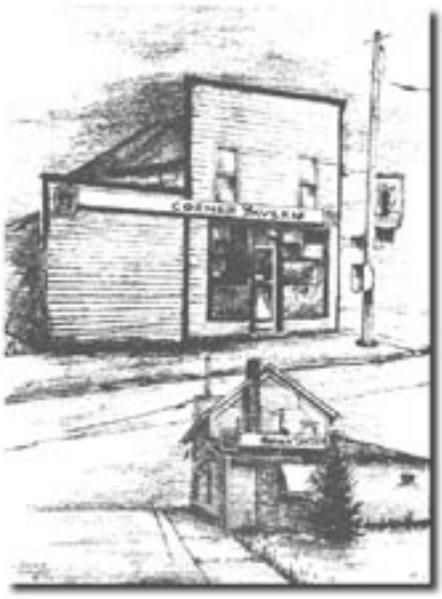
34 Old Redmond Schoolhouse

Built in 1922 with 12 rooms, the Old Redmond Schoolhouse served all grades, 1 through 12, for many years. During its first half century, the school was the focus of community activities. The entire town supported the sports teams with great enthusiasm. Holiday programs, dances, theatrical productions, annual carnivals and special events were held in the auditorium, which was dedicated in 2000 to Robert Cotterill, a beloved janitor and music director. In 1944, the school districts of Redmond, Kirkland and Juanita were consolidated, and Redmond students attended Lake Washington High School in Kirkland until 1965 when Redmond High School was built. The south end of the ridge between the Sammamish and Snoqualmie Valleys had once been known as Poverty Hill, but was soon being called Education Hill, with the new high school atop its plateau, the junior high on its southern slope, and the grade school at its base in the original 1922 schoolhouse. A new brick elementary school opened in 1998 next door to this landmark building. Two years later, the Old Redmond Schoolhouse was dedicated as the city's new community center, its role in the cultural life of the city full-circle from its early days at the community's hub. The buses in this photograph c.1926 were built by the manual training shop instructor, Judd Orr, and students in classes held at Anderson Park. At first these wooden buses were driven by boys in high school, and the rides were relentlessly bumpy but welcomed by students walking from as far away as Inglewood Hill.

Photographed by Miguel Llanos

33 American Legion Hall

Halvor Stensland established the Redmond American Legion Post #161 in 1939, and was its first commander. Stensland organized some interested friends and Legionnaires to take responsibility for the Redmond Cemetery. They founded the non-profit Redmond Cemetery Association, and purchased the cemetery property for which the Stensland family members became caretakers. In 1946 the Post bought this corner lot, but continued to meet in the Nokomis Clubhouse until 1952. Then, they acquired a Quonset hut that had previously been the Doughnut Shop in Kirkland, moving it to their site north of Anderson Park where they used it for a decade while planning a permanent hall. In 1957, they cleared the trees from their land, and sold the timber to Henry Isackson's sawmill in Happy Valley. With money received from the lumber, they started a building fund, and by 1961 their meeting hall was complete, members having donated nearly all the labor. For the next 40 years, the Post's building served veterans and the community with its meeting rooms, dance hall and banquet room for 300. The Quonset hut was traded for two used furnaces to heat the new building. In 2000, the American Legion Hall was demolished. The cannons that once stood sentry on this corner are Japanese field cannons captured by US forces in WWII. The federal government gave them to Kirkland's American Legion after the war, and they were placed in a park on a hill where they proved dangerous. They found a permanent home c.1950 in Redmond—on level ground. They are now at the Legion's new headquarters on 159th Pl. NE.



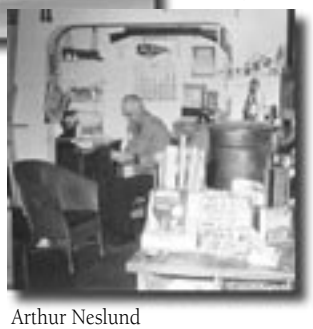
Sketch by Dorisjean Colvin

4 The Corner Tavern

Today's O'Leary Park is nestled on one corner of the intersection which, in 1966, had the first traffic light in town. Although one block to the east a blinking red light was already in place, this intersection was soon called "Walk and Don't Walk." The wood-frame building that had stood on this spot from 1903 was demolished in 1972 to create the corner park. At that time, the value of this lot on the NW corner of "Walk-and-Don't Walk" was $4800. The old building had been occupied by a succession of businesses over the decades, which in the early 1900s included Donnelly's first general store, several doctors' offices, a cafè and a drugstore. The upper floor of the building was sometimes the living quarters for proprietors of the businesses below. In the late 1930s, the Corner Tavern opened here and, through the front windows, passersby could view patrons drinking beer and conversing with one another. In its decades of being a community fixture, a long list of local men served as bartenders. One was Ward Martin, whose grandparents arrived in Redmond in 1883. When Dorisjean Colvin sketched the tavern shortly before it was destroyed, some locals disapproved of her choice of subjects as being too "common."

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

Courtesy of Sammamish Valley News



Arthur Neslund

5 Redmond Hardware

When this building was new in 1903, the upper story was a boarding house. One might wonder how quiet the rooms were, since a saloon occupied the lower story. Below that, a trap door in the floor led to a hand-dug cellar where kegs of beer were stored. Later, the first floor became a theater for silent movies. During WWI, Charles Martin ran a restaurant on the main floor. In the early 1920s, the Modern Woodsmen, an insurance lodge, rented the upstairs for meetings, as did other groups, and dances were held downstairs. The building was purchased in 1924 by Clarence R. Pope, who opened Redmond Hardware, the town's first hardware store. In 1931, he added a false front to the building. Upon Pope's death in 1944, Arthur "Art" Neslund Sr. bought the Redmond Hardware, which soon came to be known as Neslund's Hardware, just as it had been called Pope's Hardware before him in spite of the legal name on the building's façade. Neslund enlarged the store, extending the building's rear toward the alley. Many local high school boys, like KOMO Radio announcer Larry Nelson, found part-time jobs there over the years. Neslund died in 1969. Redmond Hardware closed shortly thereafter, and several tack shops occupied the building before Alpine Hut moved into this historic building. With its original sidewalk display windows, false front façade, and recessed entrance, the Redmond Hardware building is a good example of commercial structures on the main streets of America early in the last century.

Photographed by Miguel Llanos

Adair House

32 Anderson Park

To create Redmond's first park in 1928, land was purchased for $1 from the old Redmond School District and adjacent land was donated by Ezra Sikes, whose wife Jennie Adair Sikes is the namesake of Adair House. For many years, it was called simply Redmond City Park as it was the only park in town. Fullard House, Adair House and the community open-air kitchen were built in 1938 by the Works Progress Administration, which also landscaped the park and built the rockery visible on its perimeter. The Junior Nokomis Club helped fund materials for building the log cabins, which were used as city offices and the first Senior Center. John Edward Beyrer was the park's first caretaker, and Albert "Andy" Anderson was its first superintendent, and it was to honor him that the park was renamed. Clarence "Clary" Fullard lived in the cabin later named after him, in exchange for maintaining the park from 1954 to 1977. Fullard was also the paid caretaker of the first city hall, and was an early volunteer firefighter. The park's restroom was once Redmond's de facto city hall, having been moved to the park in 1950. During the years when former Mayor Fred Reil was the city clerk, he and Mayor Brown used this small building to hold meetings and dispense justice.

Photographed by Miguel Llanos

Fullard House

From the Perrigo Family Collection

31 Redmond's First School

Just four years after Luke McRedmond and Warren Perrigo became the area's first white settlers, Warren donated a portion of his homestead so that a school could be built for the pioneers' children. In 1875, a log cabin was erected on the south side of Railroad Avenue across from today's Anderson Park. Warren also donated land for the community's first church, which was built very close to the school, a fortunate location because a few years later the log cabin was too small and students were able to use the church for a classroom. In 1892, a new school was built near the church, and three years later it burned down. Once again, the church was used for classes. A third school was built near the church and it burned down in 1896 after school had been in session for just two weeks, and again the church was used as a school. In 1908, parents pooled their efforts and resources to build a new, two-story school at Anderson Park. What happened to the church on Warren's property? It burned down, of course!

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

6 Skjarstad's Boot & Shoe Repair

When Ole Skjarstad came to Redmond from Colorado in the spring of 1904, he was the first professional cobbler in this frontier community and his services were much needed. Skjarstad purchased a narrow lot with a house on Leary Way. He built his shop in front of the house, flush up against the wooden sidewalk. In the century's first decade, wooden planks covered the muddy main street to prevent wagon wheels from sinking, and horses often shied away from the unaccustomed footing. For ten years, the Skjarstads lived in the house behind the boot shop. The house had been built in the late 1800s, and it still stands today. With local logging then in its heyday, and most area residents engaged in farming to some degree, the busy cobbler repaired as many boots as he did shoes. Ole Skjarstad owned the first telephone and automobile in town. He was also the first depositor when C.A. Shinstrom opened the Redmond State Bank down the street. For many years, until his death in 1942, Ole Skjarstad kept the legal records for all Redmond Cemetery lots that were sold. Although the small shop has changed hands many times in the last century, it is still a shoe repair shop. This building is typical of early wood-frame business buildings with proprietor's quarters in the rear.

From the Collection of Roy Lampaert

Adile's wife, Rachel Lampaert, with son Roy and a hired man

7 Lampaert's Butcher Shop

The original use of this 1903 building is unknown, but by 1908 Belgium-born Adile Victor Lampaert had purchased it and opened his second butcher shop on Leary Way. Here, his family lived above the shop. He built a large feed lot and slaughter house on what was then the northwestern outskirts of town, and where Redmond's first QFC grocery store is today. Lampaert's cattle and sheep roamed the open pastures from south of today's City Hall to where Tony Roma's restaurant now stands on busy Redmond Way. Henry and Grace Thomas purchased Lampaert's main street butcher shop in 1928, moving into the upstairs living quarters and changing the name to the Thomas Meat Market, which was also an early grocery store. Bud and Kay Moss were the site's next occupants, their market being a Red & White Food Store. In subsequent years, the building housed taverns, the first being the Lucky Boy Tavern, which featured dancing in the 1950s.

Photographed by Carl Jeppesen

30 The Last Blacksmith Shop

In the late 1970s, when Benjamin Askew hooked his old US Army truck up to the shop he'd purchased on Redmond Way a quarter century earlier, he pulled down the last blacksmith shop in town. Not the usual blacksmith, Ben didn't like shoeing horses. "Horses kick," he would explain. He devoted much of his time to fixing area residents' pipes, traveling the countryside in the military vehicle he'd modified to accommodate his welding equipment. Today, 166th Avenue traverses this site where, in 1938, W.E. Jewett built and operated the original blacksmith shop named the White Front Shop. Now traffic whizzes toward Redmond Town Center over the same ground where blacksmiths Jewett and Askew hand-wrought the metal of a less hurried time.

29 First Fire Station, City Hall

In 1950 Redmond had 600 residents, 75 of whom volunteered labor and materials to build a combination fire station/city hall/jail. It was the first home for the Volunteer Fire Department. It was also the first city hall. In 1912, Frederick A. Reil was Redmond's first mayor. In 1950, he was the city clerk, the justice of the peace, the municipal judge, the water superintendent, the city's notary public, and the town's only full-time employee. On moving day, Reil pushed the city's 38 years of accumulated public records to the new city hall in a wheelbarrow. Upon settling into their new quarters, Mayor Lewis Green and the Town Council found that fire station activities and prisoners marching through meetings could disrupt the proceedings of government. It is believed that in this building, a burst water pipe irreparably destroyed 12 years of city records that were stored, for lack of space, under the flooring. In 1969, Ronald W. Haworth became the city's first full-time fire chief, and in 1981 a new department headquarters was built on 161st Avenue NE. A new city hall was erected in 1970 on the city's 85th Street campus where, 50 years after volunteers built the first multi-use facility, the city clerk's office and City Council chambers still share a building with police and prisoners in the Public Safety Building. In the same time span, the number of city employees increased from one to 540. The old structure built by volunteers has been The Old Fire House Teen Center since 1994.

Courtesy of Irene Reil Kinney

Fred and Lucy Reil

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

8 Redmond State Bank

When the first bank in Redmond opened its doors on the corner of Leary and Cleveland in 1911, the handsome brick building looked much the same as it does today. Its dignified façade symbolized stability and security, which bolstered the efforts of early bankers who had to work hard to convince old-timers to deposit their savings, rather than bury money in the ground for safe-keeping. The bank was so successful in the newly incorporated town, that in 1927 it purchased two Kirkland banks and received a national charter. In 1923, a gentleman from Iowa named Rex Swan came to Redmond to join the bank, and was soon an integral part of the community. He became the bank's president, and in 1936 he was elected City Treasurer, an office he held unopposed until 1973 when the elected position was terminated. In its first 50 years of business, the bank was robbed only once, in 1928, and could proudly boast that despite many lost and damaged loan notes, the bank did not lose one dollar from its honest customers who knew what they owed, and paid it. Also in 1928, David Burk built an addition to the building's west side on Cleveland Street, and here he opened the town's first automatic telephone company. The addition was later seamlessly incorporated into the main bank building, and since 1955, the building has been owned and occupied by Brad Best Realty.

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

9 The Stone House

Orson A. Wiley and his wife Emma Holmes Wiley built their stone house on Cleveland Street c.1916. Its materials and bungalow style were very different from the wood-frame homes and buildings surrounding it in the center of town. The stones were collected from rivers and streams in the area. Wiley owned a thriving livery stable on the same property, and while he built his stone home, he and his family lived above the stable where horses were boarded, and wagons and carriages were rented. When he sold his livery, Wiley became a saloon keeper, advertising his establishment, the Eagle Bar, as "Redmond's finest Sample Room–Fine Wines, Liquors and Cigars." The Eagle Bar's pool room was a popular place with male residents. Incredibly, Wiley was one of three one-eyed bartenders in early Redmond. Common lore claims Orson Wiley was a bootlegger during Prohibition. It is also believed he constructed tunnels and underground stills on his property and, although it has never been substantiated, the story remains a local favorite.

Courtesy of EHC–Marymoor Museum

Courtesy of EHC – Marymoor Museum

Courtesy of Roy Buckley

28 Buckley's Garage & Service Station

When Frank Buckley's Service Station opened on Labor Day 1931 it was as advertised: modern. Of its four innovative, electrically operated pumps, three were for gasoline, each a different brand, and one was for oil as car owners could not yet purchase oil in cans. Also unique in its day in the service station was the lunch room which was advertised as offering, "clean and wholesome food, courteously and attractively served." Station owner Frank W. Buckley was on the Redmond Town Council for 19 years, 1933–1951. That he launched his new business and ran for election during the Great Depression testifies to his optimism and determination to be an independent businessman. To the east of the new station stood Buckley's Garage built 7 years earlier. To the station's north was Harry's Market where Harry Carlson built frozen food lockers behind the store. The lockers were rented by literally half the town's families in 1945. The market's open façade had hinged doors which were closed at night to secure produce & merchandise displays. Harry's Market also boasted a lunch counter where Harry's sisters-in-law, Agnes & Anna Johnson, served home-made pastries, and ran the first soft-ice cream machine in town. Later, the store became known as Clint's Market when Clint Lochnane bought it, then Barry's Market when Prescott Barry purchased it. Buckley's Service Station was demolished in 1978 for construction of the Highline Savings Bank.

Courtesy of Liz Carlson Coward

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

27 Major's Blacksmith Shop

R.L. Polk's Directory of Redmond 1911–1912 reads "Durkoop & Major, General Blacksmithing, Wagon and Loggers Tools, Repairing, Expert Horseshoeing a Specialty." M. Edward Major was on Redmond's first Town Council in 1913, and his partner was C.H. Durkoop, a fellow blacksmith. At that time, their busy shop was located across Leary Way from the Putnam building, on the site that was later occupied by the *Sammamish Valley News*. In 1918, the two partners built a new shop on this Redmond Way corner where they continued their metal work until the plodding of horse hooves on packed-dirt streets gave way to the squeal of tires on pavement. When they closed their business, the Scalion brothers moved into the building and opened a repair shop for the increasingly popular horseless carriages. A succession of businesses followed in this building, as seen in this 1939 picture, including a café with a soda fountain and a shoe repair shop. The building was torn down in 1941, and a few years later, a new structure stood on the site, with 13 apartments upstairs and a shoe and clothing shop in the street-level storefronts. Until recently, for several decades Gordon Woolslayer's Towne Unfinished Furniture occupied the lower floor of the building which was remodeled in 2001.

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

10 Westby's General Store

T.B. Westby opened his store in 1901. In the following years, his merchandise was in stiff competition with dry goods sold by the Redmond Trading Company, Donnelly's General Store, and Youngerman's Store, all located on Leary Way. When Westby became Redmond's Postmaster in 1909, the post office moved into his store, bringing new foot traffic. The old Kirkland–Redmond Road was paved in 1911, and the auto stage quickly became steady, dependable transportation. The auto stage office pictured here was located in the Westby building c.1920. During that decade, Lewis Green, later Redmond's mayor (1949–1952), drove a Pierce Arrow bus for Leo Reed's stage line, carrying Seattle-bound passengers from Redmond to the line's western terminus at the Kirkland ferry dock. The building was extensively remodeled in the late 1950s to encompass both the wood-frame building to its south, which had housed Lentz's Dry Goods, and the lot where Redmond's first public library had stood. In its century on the SW corner of Leary and Cleveland, the building has been occupied by an eclectic range of businesses including a café, false teeth manufacturer, insurance company, cocktail lounge, automobile agency, and spiritual bookstore. When Westby opened his dry goods establishment, Redmond was still a frontier community whose intermittent wooden sidewalks echoed with the spiked boots of loggers on a Saturday night.

Courtesy of EHC–Marymoor Museum

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

⑪ E.O. Lentz Notions

When repeated crop failures brought hard times to Baker, Montana, Edward Otto and Sophie Lentz closed their general store, and headed farther west. In 1929, they opened a shoe and clothing store on Redmond's main street where business was good—for a few months. Despite the Great Depression, which began later that same year, the Lentzes kept their store open by extending credit to customers and accepting items in trade. When J.C. Penney opened its competing store in Kirkland, its prices were cheaper, but only cash was accepted. So, when people had cash, they went to Penney's; when they didn't, they went to Lentz's. WWII revitalized the town's economy as it did the nation's, and in 1946 the Lentzes retired and closed their shop, one of the main street businesses that had never had a telephone. This wood-frame store with its tall false front was built c.1910 by Herman S. Reed, who also owned the stores on either side of it. Reed taught school in Redmond from 1900 to 1917. He was the town's Postmaster from 1915 until his death in 1932. His son Leo Reed then followed him as Postmaster, and served in that capacity until his own death in 1956.

Courtesy City of Redmond

26 Bechtol Drugstore ❁

Druggist Ernest R. Bechtol built this stucco-clad building in the Art Deco style that was popular in commercial architecture in the 1920s–30s. The style was characterized by bold outlines, often with geometric and zigzag forms such as those on the canopy of Bechtol's building and on its vertical fluted pilasters. Bechtol Drugstore, which later became Redmond Drugs, opened in 1938. This city block formed the western side of what residents called the Town Square, although the "square" is actually a triangle centrally located at the junction of the Redmond–Woodinville Road and Redmond Way. When Bechtol's was in business, the post office was to its north, Buckley's Service Station and Harry's Market were on the east side of the open square, and to the south was Sunset Drugs which pharmacist William "Pete" Douglass purchased in 1940 and named Douglass Drugs. With its old-fashioned soda fountain, the latter was a social gathering spot for all ages. Despite Redmond being a small town, all four of its pharmacies were financially successful in their competitive turns on the Town Square. Pharmacists' advice at Bechtol Drugstore, Redmond Drugs, Sunset Drugs and Douglass Drugs filled a need created by Redmond having only one resident doctor, George A. Davis to whom the Town Square flagpole is dedicated.

Courtesy City of Redmond

25 Flagpole Plaza

Towering above Redmond's smallest city park is a flagpole that was dedicated in 1946 in memory of Dr. George A. Davis, Redmond's first resident physician. The park itself was dedicated in 1993 as the culmination of a Leadership Redmond project sponsored by the Redmond Chamber of Commerce. The park's sign, artwork and sidewalk improvements involved numerous city and community partners, with funding provided by King County's "1% for Arts" program. Artist Cheryll Leo-Gwin designed the Bridge to Brotherhood mural to celebrate the diverse ethnicity of King County's residents. Leo-Gwin is a fourth-generation American of Chinese descent whose inspiration for this artwork was both her personal experience with racial prejudice and the histories of local immigrants. The porcelain enamel mural is 28 feet long and incorporates the photographs of 64 area families, placed as building blocks to the bridge. At the mural's bottom are symbols of hate, while abstract tulip-headed people cross over the bridge, symbolizing the enlightened, caring people who have labored to build our community. Since the park's dedication, Leadership Redmond has evolved from a Chamber of Commerce program to a non-profit organization called Leadership Institute, training community leaders from Kirkland and Woodinville, as well as Redmond.

Watercolor by Pat Dugan
Courtesy Friends of the Redmond Library

12 First Redmond Library

Residents called it "the little building on Leary." The year was 1927, the town's population hovered at 400, and buildings did not have street numbers. Today, the Nokomis Club is distinguished as the oldest woman's club on the Eastside, but in 1927 it had been meeting for just 18 years when the ladies of the Club resolved to open a public library for their town. Wedged in between the Redmond Trading Company to its south, and Lentz's Dry Goods to its north, the little building was just what the Club could afford: Landlord Herman S. Reed agreed to $10 rent per month, and the first three months free. The ladies went door-to-door throughout the town, collecting used books from residents, and when Redmond's first public library opened its doors that year, 800 volumes lined the shelves made by their spouses. Club members maintained the building and took turns being the librarians, even working evenings. Yet they never neglected their fundraising efforts, which extended beyond the institution they had founded to public works of charity and community spirit. For the next 20 years, the women's club alone supported the library, without City or County funds, a common script among small western towns of the day. The library formed by these dedicated citizens is now in its seventh location since they first dusted off those empty shelves in the little building on Leary in 1927.

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

13 Redmond Trading Company

Built in 1908, the Redmond Trading Company was the anchor store along Redmond's main street for 50 years, and in its first decades it was the town's largest business. The company's Articles of Incorporation in 1907 state its business objectives: "To engage in a general merchandise business, both wholesale and retail, and to deal in, buy, sell, hypothecate, own, hold and otherwise acquire and dispose of all sorts of goods, wares and merchandise of all and every kind and nature." Beginning with $9,000 of capital stock, the corporation's first three trustees were C.W. Huffman, H.R. Huffman and Fred A. Reil, who became the town's first mayor in 1912. When the store opened, Reil was the town's Postmaster, so the post office was logically located in the Trading Company where Reil worked. William Howell joined the business in its early days, stocking shelves with a built-in rolling library ladder, and waiting on customers amid the general store's bins of dry goods, shelves of hardware and bolts of cloth, eventually becoming the company's sole owner. The town's first underground gasoline tank was installed outside the building. Inside, as in most small-town general stores of that era, folks gathered around the old pot-bellied stove to read their mail and enjoy the company of other customers. Over the years since the Redmond Trading Company closed its doors in 1955, the building has housed numerous businesses, including Kustom Kraft, which manufactured some of the wood boats that once raced in the annual "Sammamish Slough" races.

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

24 Brown's Garage

Automobile service shops were a common sight in Eastside communities by 1920 when Mayor Bill Brown built his 20-car repair shop, enduringly the most attractive commercial building of its kind. The new business profited from highway traffic from the east, north and west. Indeed, during his 30 years in office, the mayor's motto was "All roads lead to Redmond," which is today a contributing element in traffic congestion as major roads were planned to converge downtown. About 1937, former Town Councilman George Julian and long-time Volunteer Fire Department Chief Jack Buckley purchased Brown's Garage. They changed the name to Redmond Motor Sales, and remodeled the building to accommodate a Chrysler–Plymouth dealership. Jack had worked in his brother Frank Buckley's service station and garage across the busy intersection before opening his own business, and the two brothers maintained friendly competition for passing highway motorists for many years. Seen in this 1920s photograph atop the garage is a tower with the bell that was rung to call the town's volunteer firefighters to action.

Watercolor by Pat Dugan
Courtesy of Redmond Historical Society

(23) T & D Feeds

For 75 years this familiar landmark towered over lesser structures in Redmond's historic downtown, a forthright symbol of our community's agrarian past. The original retail store opened in 1918 on a site to the west of the present building, and was moved nearer the railway tracks in the 1930s. When it closed in 2000, it was still serving small farmers and ranchers on the outskirts of town. The store, feed mill and warehouse complex operated under a succession of names over the years including the Grange Co-op, Western Farmers, Nordquist Feed Mills, and lastly, T & D Feeds. The structures on this site were demolished in the spring of 2001.

Courtesy of Arlyn Bjerke Vallene

(14) Redmond Meat Market

Little is known about W. R. Rose, the proprietor of this early butcher shop on Leary Way. Taken c.1890, the animal skins in this photograph are a reminder that Redmond's fertile valleys and thickly forested hills were teeming with wildlife which provided food for the area's pioneers, just as they had local Native Americans for many centuries. The meat market was located just north of the Seattle Lake Shore & Eastern Railway tracks. Both W.R. Rose's store and the commercial building next door (only partly visible in this photo) were either demolished or moved when the Redmond Trading Company bought the property to build its brick store in 1908. This picture was taken by Winfred Wallace, a Redmond resident and professional photographer, who took many of the local street scenes which have survived from the early 1900s.

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

15 Annie Smith's Rooming House

Anna McRedmond was born and raised in the town bearing her father's name. Affectionately called Annie, she was the daughter of Captain Luke McRedmond and Kate Barry Morse McRedmond. In 1899, her older sister Emma and Emma's husband, Justice William White, opened the Hotel Redmond on the original McRedmond homestead, facing north on Leary toward the railway depot and arriving visitors. A few years later in 1908, Anna and Anna's husband built a rooming house directly across the street on Leary Way, also facing north, expectantly toward the railway tracks. When she first met him, Anna's husband Elmer A. Smith was a conductor for the Seattle Lake Shore & Eastern Railway line, which stopped in Redmond. Probably seeking a job closer to home, Smith resigned from the railroad after they married, and formed a partnership with Theodore Youngerman in a general dry goods store, Smith & Youngerman. Before long, Smith began his own local feed and seed business, and described himself as a rancher to Polk Directory census takers in 1911, although he lived with Annie and their three children in the attractive rooming house in the heart of town. What became of this gingerbread-style building isn't known.

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

22 Grange Co-op

As in many farming communities at the beginning of the 20th century, Redmond's Happy Valley farmers and ranchers formed a cooperative to reduce their costs by buying supplies in bulk. At the Grangers' Warehouse of Redmond, farm families could purchase nearly all their needs, from food and feed, to tools and tires. In 1918, the Grangers incorporated and bought this 1903 building, which had previously been a saloon. W. J. Trimble was the cooperative's first manager, and Henry Iverson Jr. shortly became the second, living with his family in a home on the north side of the warehouse. The hundred-year old building has been enlarged and remodeled over the years to suit the diverse uses of its occupants, which have included a tavern, the Assembly of God Church, Linder Electric Company and a pawnshop.

21 Grand Central Hotel

Anna and Henry Evers with grandson

Despite its name, the Grand Central was a workingman's hotel with competitive rates of $1.50 per day. Fred and Mary Heiser Walther built this two-story hotel in 1910 to replace their Hotel Walther, which burned down earlier that year on Gilman Street. They also called this new establishment the Hotel Walther. When Anna Rolfs Evers bought the hotel in 1912, the local logging industry was in its heyday, and business was brisk in room rentals and in the hotel's bar and restaurant. Although known to locals as the Evers Hotel for another decade, in 1916 the hotel was incorporated as the Grand Central Hotel. In 1929, it was the only hotel in town, serving as a gathering spot for many public functions, including Town Council meetings. It was here in the early 1930s that the entire Town Council was arrested and taken to jail in Seattle—for illegal gambling! When the Redmond Public Library outgrew its little building to the north of the Redmond Trading Company in 1930, it moved into the Grand Central until 1933 when the Nokomis Club built a library building on NE 80th Street. With the demise of local logging and the onset of the Great Depression, the Grand Central closed, although Anna and Henry Evers continued to live in the building for years. The building has changed owners many times, and has been significantly remodeled since the widowed Anna sold it in the early 1940s. For more than 50 years, the familiar structure was Redmond Hotel Café.

The first Hotel Walther

Courtesy of Lyn Lambert

Dudley Carter

16 Haída House

Until his death at age 100, local wood carver Dudley Carter found lifelong joy in his monumental works. While he was not ethnically Native American, his sculptures were inspired during his youth by contact with the totem-carving natives of British Columbia. Carter was King County's first artist in residence, living and working along the Sammamish River in a modest home built in 1957 by Inga Rynning. With Forward Thrust Park Bond funds in the 1970s, King County purchased the parcel at the eastern foot of Leary Bridge, and named it Sammamish Slough Park. In 1988 when he was 96, Carter moved into the park, where a sign hung on the fence informing passersby that he was available to discuss his work daily at noon. The Haida House studio on this site was built by Carter in 1980, in the style of the Haida people, without nails or bolts. It was disassembled and stored at Marymoor Park for a few years before being reassembled at Sammamish Slough Park, where it remains today. Carter became locally known when he demonstrated his wood carving at the first Pacific Northwest Arts and Crafts Fair at Bellevue Square in 1947. Today, from San Francisco's City College to nearby Marymoor Park, Carter's interpretation of the traditional Northwest Native carver's style is admired. Working with his favorite tools in hand, a double-bitted ax or adze, Dudley Carter carved native woods with the same respect he held for the spirit of all life. Look about for his work, and see how this humble artist expressed the inherent nobility he found in nature.

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17 Justice White House/ Hotel Redmond

William White

Known as "War Horse Bill," William Henry White was wounded in the Civil War and walked on crutches to cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1865. Later, he came to Washington Territory where he was appointed to the State Supreme Court, and unflinchingly fought injustice in defending the rights of Chinese laborers. White staked a homestead at Avondale, where he built a cabin, blazed a trail to Novelty Road, and donated land in 1895 for a school. In Redmond, he married Luke McRedmond's daughter, Emma Francis. In 1889, the Whites built the gracious Hotel Redmond directly across the railway tracks from the train depot built that same year. For the next quarter century, the hotel was a fashionable gathering place for visitors who came to Redmond to fish and hunt. Justice White died in 1914, and Emma maintained the hotel as a boarding house until the Great Depression brought foreclosure. In 1932 the building became the clubhouse for the Redmond Golf Links, a public golf course which Redmond residents enjoyed for four decades. The Redmond Town Center shopping mall is now on the original McRedmond homestead where once cattle grazed, and later, golfers played.

Courtesy of Washington State Archives

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

20 Bill Brown's Building

In 1910, Bill Brown built his first retail business, a wood-frame saloon on the SE corner of Leary and Cleveland. Three years later, he tore down the popular loggers' gathering place and on the same site built a stately two-story building that long remained the town's most handsome brick structure. Brown's saloon reopened as the new building's cornerstone business, other first-floor tenants being a drugstore and barber shop. Upstairs was a large community gathering space and a dance floor where Brown's favorite dance, the waltz, often dominated an evening. When Prohibition closed his lucrative saloon, Brown turned to other, diverse interests—which ranged over the years from an auto stage line to a logging operation in which he lost an eye. From 1915 to 1927, Brown's building was Redmond's virtual city hall where civic business was conducted and the Town Council held meetings. Bill Brown served as Redmond's mayor from 1919 to 1948, decades that spanned Redmond's logging era, Prohibition, and World War II, to a new epoch of broader based government symbolized by Redmond's first Planning Commission in 1948. For a full 30 years, this undeniably was Bill Brown's town. The architectural integrity of this handsome red brick building remains much as it was in 1913 when Bill Brown built it.

Courtesy of Eastside Heritage Center–Marymoor Museum

⑲ Youngerman's General Store and Lampaert's Redmond Meat Market

Expanding his feed and seed business into a true general store was a timely change for Theodore Youngerman, who diversified just ahead of the automobile's arrival on Redmond's main street. This was his second store location, and convenient to the railway tracks for unloading his wares. In spite of the fact that he always carried a gun, Youngerman was said to be good-natured, and was elected to the first Town Council when Redmond incorporated in 1912. In this photo taken c.1907, a hay wagon hides most of Youngerman's building. To the north of his general store was Adile Lampaert's first meat market c.1906, probably opened within a year after his arriving from Belgium where he was a butcher. One of the many colorful meat cutters who worked for Lampaert was "Champagne Bill Knight, the Klondike Man" who, before settling in Redmond, was reputed to have drunk champagne from a saloon gal's slipper in Alaska. His claim has not been verified, but his end has: Knight died of acute alcoholism. Also partially seen in this photograph is the Hotel Redmond beyond the railway tracks to the south. Set back slightly from Leary Way and not seen, was the Redmond Railway Depot which stood between Youngerman's General Store and the Hotel Redmond.

Sketch by Dorisjean Colvin

⑱ Redmond Railway Depot

Redmond's logging industry received a tremendous boost in 1889 when the Seattle Lake Shore & Eastern Railway built a station in the center of town. With regular passenger service, Redmond's hotels and eateries flourished. Twice each day, the train passed through Redmond, bringing school children into town in the morning, delivering mail to the post office, picking up milk in large metal cans, and taking businessmen and shoppers into Seattle. The depot was located just east of Leary Way, and north of the Hotel Redmond. Its location played a pivotal part in naming the town of Redmond. Shortly after he and Luke McRedmond staked the area's first land claims, Warren Perrigo built Melrose House, an inn that was the predominant local landmark. Soon, travelers and residents were calling the settlement Melrose, instead of Salmonberg, and in 1881 the name was officially recognized when Adam Tosh was appointed the first Postmaster of Melrose. The next year Luke McRedmond was appointed Postmaster and successfully petitioned to change the postal name to Redmond, although the change wasn't widely accepted until he donated a portion of his homestead for a railway depot site. After 8 decades of service, the Redmond depot was closed in 1970, and the building was demolished in 1972, after attempts by concerned citizens to preserve it failed.

Luke McRedmond